United Nations A/C.2/58/L.38

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91 (g)
Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities

Morocco:* draft resolution

Commodities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/236 of 20 December 2002, and stressing the urgent need to ensure its full implementation,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2]

Taking note also of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010[3] and the *Least Developed Countries Report, 2002*,[4]

Taking note further of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[5]

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum) chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] A/CONF.191/11.

[4] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.D.13.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

03-60929 (E) 121103

Taking note of the targets set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Plan of Action of the World Food Summit[6] and the outcome document of the World Food Summit: five years later,[7] which reaffirms the pledge to end hunger,

Taking note also of the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001,[8]

Taking note further of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its fiftieth session[9] and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions relating to the particular needs and problems of commodity-dependent developing countries,[10]

Mindful of the opportunity that the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take place in São Paulo, Brazil, in June 2004, will offer for further consideration of proposals to address commodity issues within the framework of the links between trade, investment and finance,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Meeting of Eminent Persons on Commodity Issues[11] and emphasizes the importance of implementing the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Calls upon* donor Governments and organizations to increase their financial and technical support for activities aimed at addressing commodity issues, particularly the needs and problems of commodity-dependent developing countries, while taking into account the recommendations of the Eminent Persons on Commodity Issues;

3. *Stresses* the importance of a speedy resumption and successful conclusion of the work programme adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha, taking into account the special problems faced by commodity-dependent countries, in particular those related to agricultural subsidies;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the bodies and organs of the United Nations system to mainstream and accord high priority to programmes on commodities in their respective programmes of work and to undertake, within their respective mandates, such measures as are necessary to implement the recommendations of the report of the Meeting of Eminent Persons;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to take steps to establish, by the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, an expert group on commodities to meet regularly and report to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly;

---

[6] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[7] Ibid., *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[8] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[9] A/58/15 (Part V). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[10] A/57/381, annex.

[11] See A/58/401.

6. *Also invites* non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to initiate programmes of assistance and other innovative initiatives in support of commodity-dependent countries, taking into account the recommendations of the Eminent Persons;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Meeting of Eminent Persons, as well as the summary of discussions in the Trade and Development Board and the Second Committee of the General Assembly, to relevant governing bodies in the United Nations system and international commodity bodies, highlighting the importance of finding lasting solutions to the problems faced by commodity-dependent countries in the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals, and inviting them to inform the General Assembly of the results of their deliberations and actions in this respect;

8. *Requests also* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to work with the Common Fund for Commodities, international financial institutions and other relevant bodies with a view to designing and implementing effective and sustainable systems of compensatory financing, taking into account the recommendations of the Eminent Persons;

9. *Requests* donor countries and development partners to support the efforts of commodity-exporting countries to add value to their products, and calls for the elimination of tariff peaks, tariff escalation and trade-distorting subsidies affecting commodity-exporting developing countries;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake further open and transparent discussions with all relevant stakeholders on the creation of a new international export diversification fund to support commodity-dependent developing countries in their efforts to diversify, overcome supply-side constraints, strengthen institutions and build knowledge and technical capacity, taking into account the recommendations of the Eminent Persons;

11. *Requests also* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to explore the possibilities for a new partnership between Governments, private business, producers' and traders' associations, civil society and international organizations in the commodity area, taking into account the concept of corporate social responsibility, and to recommend concrete steps for the implementation of supportive initiatives at the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in June 2004;

12. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant international organizations to strengthen, within a coherent programme with an effective division of labour, their capacity-building and technical cooperation activities in the fields of policy design and implementation, institution-building, management and utilization of commodity revenues, price risk management and improving supply capacities, including the ability to satisfy quality and other requirements for market entry, and to enhance activities aimed at the sharing of experiences, identification of best practices and South-South cooperation in the field of commodities, including for dealing with overs 'pply situations. It also calls upon donor Governments and organizations to increase their financial support for these activities;

13. *Calls upon also* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Common Fund for Commodities and all relevant international organizations to continue to analyse trends in commodities and their impact on development in commodity-dependent developing countries, particularly the link between the problems of commodity-exporting developing countries and debt relief measures with a view to exploring mechanisms that address such links in a systematic manner;

14. *Calls* for the strengthening of the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Common Fund for Commodities and all relevant organizations to provide, and that of the developing countries to use, timely, accurate, comprehensive and user-friendly information and analysis;

15. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to undertake such initiatives and activities as are necessary to keep the commodities issue a high priority of Governments, the international community, media, academia and all relevant stakeholders;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.